What do Museums Do?
- Collect memories & preserve the past
- Stimulate discovery & creativity
- Embrace diversity & celebrate cultures
- Provide education for all ages
- Partner with schools & innovative learning techniques
- Serve as trusted institutions that anchor communities

Museum Facts
- Museums support over 726,000 American jobs and contribute $50 billion to the U.S. economy each year.
- More people visited an art museum, science center, historic house or site, zoo, or aquarium in 2018 than attended a professional sporting event.
- Museums spend over $2 billion each year on educational activities.
- Museum also provide many social services, including programs for children on the autism spectrum, English as a Second Language classes, and programs for adults with Alzheimer’s or other cognitive impairments.

Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies

This online program prepares graduate students for professional work in museums as administrators, educators, curators, collection managers, exhibit developers, and public program specialists.

The Museum Studies admissions committee welcomes applicants in any field with advanced degrees or who are currently enrolled in masters or doctoral programs.

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Visit our website at http://www.memphis.edu/museumstudies

Museum Studies student JoLynne Minnick preparing for the exhibit Sketching Europe: A Tour Through the Eyes of Memphian Samuel H. Crone.

Chandler Tait working as an intern at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art

Genevieve Hill-Thomas and Simeneh Betreyohannes perform a conditions report on an African textile in AMUM’s permanent collection.
Modern Museums

In the 21st century, museums increasingly engage people with each other and the important issues of their community. In an educational era of “teaching to the test,” museums provide free-style learning emphasizing individual and cooperative inquiry, discovery and creativity.

35,000 American museums employ 726,000 people, house a billion or more objects, welcome 850 million visitors each year and contribute $50 billion annually to the U.S. economy. They range in type from art museums and historical sites to science centers and zoos and in size from one room to multi-building campuses.

The University of Memphis’ online Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies prepares students for this vibrant economic sector.

Course Requirements

The Interdisciplinary graduate Certificate in Museum Studies is 100% online and requires 18 credit hours consisting of:

- Two core course Museum Studies & Museums and Communities

- Successful completion of two 150-hour internships. Each student’s program is tailored to his or her goals. Internships can be completed in local, regional or national museums on site or online.

- Two elective courses approved by the program coordinator (Dr. Leslie Luebbers). For more information about elective courses that count towards the program, visit https://www.memphis.edu/museumstudies/courses/index.php.

Recent Internships

The following list demonstrates the range of institutions across the country that have served as host museums for the program’s past interns:

- Alexandria Archaeology Museum, in Alexandria, VA
- Art Museum of the University of Memphis in Memphis, TN
- C. H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa in Memphis, TN
- Davies Manor Historical Site in Bartlett, TN
- DeSoto County Museum in Hernando, MS
- Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis, TN
- Ducks Unlimited Inc., Waterfowling Heritage Center in Memphis, TN Memphis Brooks
- Museum of Art in Memphis, TN
- Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, NY
- Museum of Science and History in Memphis, TN
- National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN
- National Ornamental Metal Museum in Memphis, TN
- Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C.
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.
- Utah Museum of Contemporary Art in Salt Lake City, Utah
- West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center in Brownsville, TN

AMUM's preparator/exhibition specialist Neil O’Brien & media specialist Caleb Stokes hang a painting in the museum's Crone Gallery

The permanent exhibit Africa: Visual Arts of a Continent located within the Art Museum of the University of Memphis

Melissa Thiringer creating virtual tours for school groups as an educational intern at the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center.